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February 27, 2004

Ms. Kay Prince, Chief
Air Planning Branch
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Sam Nunn Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Dear Ms. Prince:

As stated in our February 18, 2004 letter, please find enclosed compelling evidence as to why the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) believes that partial and separate nonattainment boundaries for Anderson, Greenville, and Spartanburg Counties is appropriate for the 8-hour ozone standard. Additionally, the Department believes that the combined partial counties of Lexington and Richland is the appropriate designation for the Columbia area.

The Department hopes that EPA will review and carefully consider this information regarding recommended boundary areas and any additional supporting technical documentation regarding our application of EPA's eleven criteria that we may submit, including the March 2004 Early Action Plan submittals. With the information provided and considering our demonstrated ability to attain National Ambient Air Quality Standards, we encourage EPA to concur with these recommendations as we have followed EPA's published guidance in establishing these recommendations. We look forward to continued discussions regarding these matters and expect EPA would provide us with similar scientific analyses of the data should you not concur with this information. If there are any questions concerning this information please feel free to contact me at (803) 898-4299 or by e-mail at shealyrg@dhec.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Renee G. Shealy, Division Director
Division of Air Planning, Development & Outreach
Bureau of Air Quality

Enclosures

cc: Henry Phillips, Bureau of Air Quality